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# THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 588-9518

## CHRISTMAS EDITION

*Season's Blessings  
to all men on Earth*





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## Enjoy the spirit of the season at Seroe Preto City of Lights



One of Aruba's most delightful seasonal traditions is now on display in San Nicolas, the Seroe Preto City of Lights. A volunteer effort by the Youth Union of Seroe Preto, the stunning lighting display features a different theme each year. It can be found on the road to Lourdes Grotto.

There is a point where the road dramatically forks; take the left hand fork to reach the City of Lights, right for the grotto.

Particularly popular on the weekends, the grounds will be scattered with beverage and snack vendors and local bands will perform until late.

During the week, in the early hours just after sunset, visitors will find it a tranquil place for quiet contemplation and some lovely photo ops.

Each of the principal structures has been built on separate limestone formations, connected by a concrete bridge. Visitors can walk among the displays, accessible by a equally decorated stairway. Don't miss taking a walk through the gap between the two cliffs, to be rewarded by a poignant nativity scene somewhat concealed behind the main display.

The City of Lights will stand until Epiphany, or Three Kings Day, January 6. All are invited to enjoy this community effort any night of the week, without charge. On that final night, the surrounding community stages a festive party, with holiday performers turning over the stage to traditional carnival bands at midnight, as all say a final goodbye to the old year and herald in the carnival season.



## Jesus Is The Reason

*In Bethlehem, God gave to us  
 The source of Christmas joy;  
 A star shown on a miracle:  
 The virgin birth of a boy.  
 He was born both God and man,  
 A Savior for us all,  
 The way to get to our heavenly home,  
 If we just heed His call.  
 So as we shop and spend and wrap  
 And enjoy the Christmas season,  
 Let's keep in mind the sacred truth:  
**Jesus is the reason.***

By Joanna Fuchs

**La Vista**

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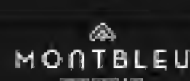


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## Christmas laughs...

### Buy your own gift

Last Christmas, grandpa was feeling his age, and found that shopping for Christmas gifts had become too difficult. So he decided to send checks to everyone instead.

In each card he wrote, "Buy your own present!" and mailed them early.

After the holiday he noticed that he had received very few cards in return. Puzzled over this, he went into his study, intending to write a couple of his relatives and ask what had happened. It was then, as he cleared off his cluttered desk that he got his answer. Under a stack of papers, he was hor-

rified to find the gift checks which he had forgotten to enclose with the cards.

### Fake Jeep

A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas.

After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she

wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles."

"She did," he replied. "But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"

### Reward

A lady lost her handbag in the bustle of Christmas shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to

her. Looking in her purse, she commented, "Hmmm.... That's funny. When I lost my bag there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are twenty \$1 bills."

The boy quickly replied, "That's right, lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have any change for a reward."

**May the Holiday Season  
 bring only happiness and joy  
 to you and your loved ones.**

**Wishing you and your loved ones,  
 peace, health, happiness and  
 prosperity in the coming New Year.**

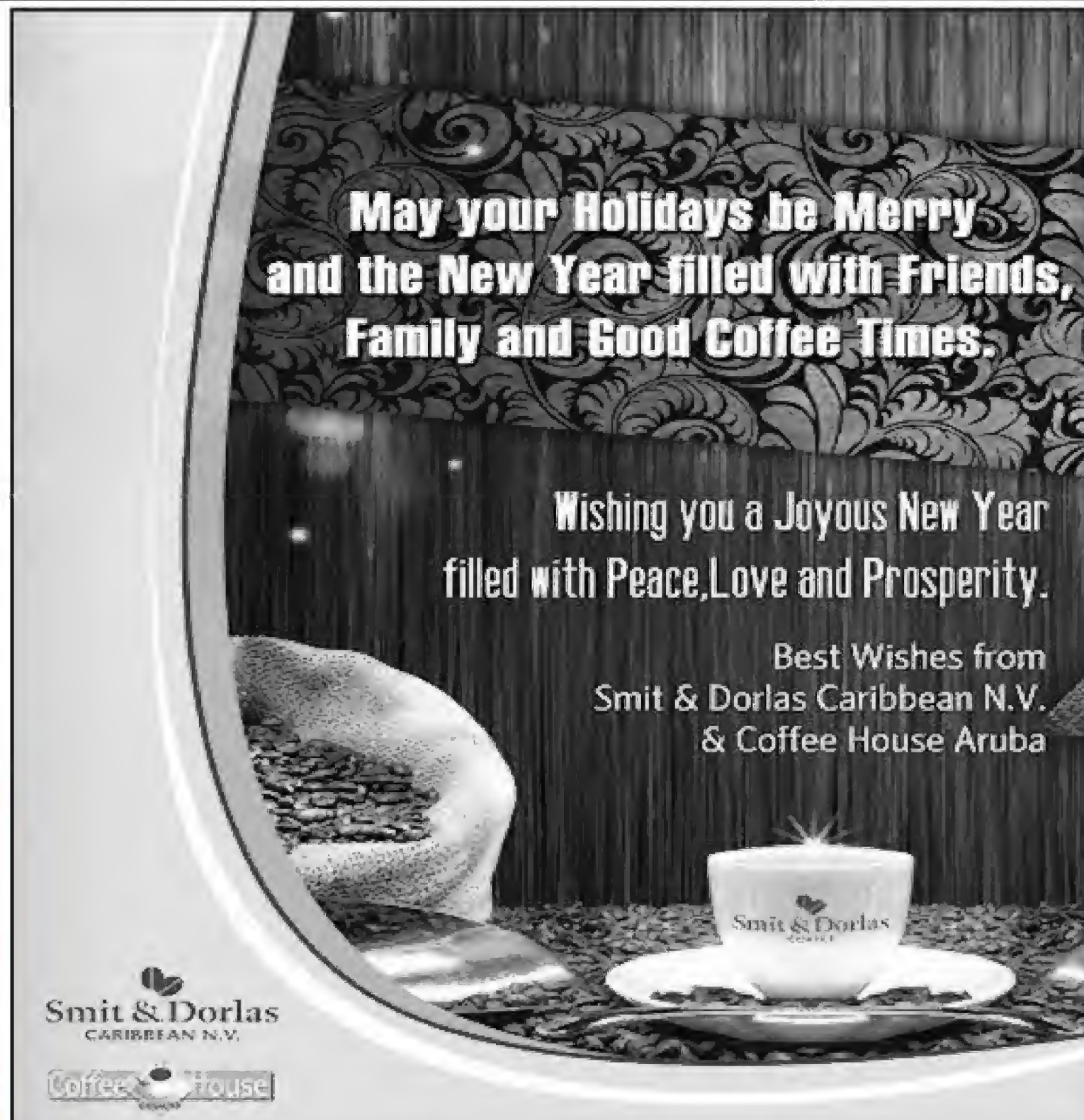






***"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?"***

— Bob Hope



## Three minutes before Christmas

By Roland W. Peterson

It is two days before Christmas and Santa Claus is very nervous. He is pacing back and forth. He is making phone calls and is drinking a lot of black coffee. He does not know what to do. Santa... Santa what is wrong? Well it is two days before Christmas and Rudolf the Red Nose Reindeer is still sick. Rudolf has the flu and is coughing all day. He is sneezing and has the fever.

Well...if you thought that his nose was red, you should see it now. It is glowing even more. Santa took Rudolf to the doctor and Rudolf must not leave the stable. Who is going to lead Santa's sleigh? For many years now Rudolf has lead Santa's sleigh. He is the one that is in front of the other reindeers. Rudolf knows all the addresses of the children by heart. In all the years he has never forgotten one child.

But now that he cannot leave the stable, who is going to lead Santa's sleigh? Now we understand why Santa is so upset and worried.

It is two days before Xmas and Santa has no one to lead his sleigh. Two more days and Santa must deliver the gifts to the children. What is Santa going to do? It is three o'clock in the morning and



Santa still can not sleep. He is thinking and thinking. He does not have a solution. Well now he has decided that he will cancel his trip this year to Aruba, because he cannot find a reindeer who knows all the children on Aruba. Santa does not want to do this, but he has no other choice.

Santa decides to call the Governor and tell him that he has cancelled his trip to Aruba because Rudolf the Red Nose reindeer is sick and he has no other reindeer to lead his sleigh. Santa, who has a "hotline" with the Governor calls him around four o'clock in the morning. The Governor who was fast asleep woke up when the phone rang. Who could it be, calling at this time at night?

The Governor was a little upset, but when he heard Santa's voice he was pleasantly surprised.

Santa told the Governor his problem and said that he would have to cancel his trip to Aruba, which means that the children would not receive any gifts this year. Now the Governor is also worried. This cannot happen. But what can he do? Santa told the Governor that when he has a solution to call him back.

Now the Governor is also with his hands on his head. What must he do? He cannot sleep anymore. He is thinking, pondering, thinking and thinking. Finally he has an idea. Before sunrise he called his driver to come to him. The driver was very sur-

prised because never before did the Governor wake him up so early. The Governor told the driver that Santa has called him and what the problem was. When the Governor got into his car he told the driver to take the road to the North coast and that underway he would tell him where he was going. The driver jokingly said then: "Mister Governor, it is not the North coast we have to go to, it looks like you have to go to the North Pole." The Governor who knew what he was going to do just shook his head and with a smile answered: "Don't worry, just do what I told you." Underway the Governor told the driver that they had to go to the cunucu of Shon Waki.

When they arrived in front of the house of Shon Waki he was sitting under the kwihi tree drinking coffee. Very surprised Shon Waki kept staring at the big car as it stopped in front of his house, and who gets out, the Governor. Shon Waki took a big sip of his coffee and almost burned his lips. "Mr. Governor, what can I do for you? Did you lose your way?" "No mister Shon Waki, it is you I am looking for." The Governor then told Shon Waki his problem. Shon Waki told the Governor that

he kept goats and not reindeers. The governor told Shon Waki that he had read in children's storybooks about the little goat with one horn, called Meki, who was the hero of all the goats, and that Meki knew all the children's addresses on Aruba. Shon Waki told the Governor that Meki could do many things and...that he knew all the children of Aruba that was the truth, but fly in the sky in front of a sleigh... oh no that he cannot do. The Governor then said that he would call Santa Claus and tell him about Meki.

That same day the Governor called Santa and told him about Meki. That Meki could do many things and that he knew all the children, but fly in the sky, that he could not do. Santa told the Governor what he had to do. At exact three minutes before Christmas the Governor has to return to Shon Waki and has to tell Meki something.

That day Shon Waki told little Meki what he would have to do. Poor little Meki became very scared and nervous, because flying in the sky over the roofs of the houses, is something he never did before. All the reindeers have big beautiful horns, he only had one little horn.

Continued on pg 5



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 with all things bright  
 and beautiful  
 in Christmastime  
 and Always*

*And wealth and  
 prosperity in the  
 New Year*

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## Three minutes before Christmas

Continued from pg 4

Shon Waki told Meki that everything would be alright and that the Governor would come back at three minutes before Xmas!

As promised, at exactly three minutes before Xmas the governor returned to the cunucu of Shon Waki. Poor little Meki was so afraid. His little legs were trembling. His head was hanging down and his little eyes were closed. As promised the Governor went to little Meki and whispered something in his left ear. Right away Meki raised his head and opened his eyes very wide. His little legs stopped trembling. He had a smile on his face. Meki was so excited when the phone rang. Who could it be, calling at this time at night? The Governor was a little upset, but when he heard Santa's voice he was pleasantly surprised.

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What is it that the Governor told Meki in his ear? It has to be some "Magic words." Suddenly they heard bells ringing in the sky. Ata

... Santa Claus has arrived with his sleigh. The sleigh was filled with gifts. Rudolf was not in front. When Santa landed, together with Shon Waki they put little Meki in front of the reindeers. Little Meki was very proud. With a big smile on his face he was pushing his chest forward.

Santa got back on the sleigh and in a wink of an eye they were in the sky, with Meki, with his one horn, leading the sleigh. Santa waved to the Governor and Shon Waki. Meki winked an eye to them. Meki with his little horn looked very cute.

That Christmas night Meki guided Santa to the homes of the all the children of Aruba. And so ... when they woke up Christmas morning all the children had their gifts. It was the first time in the history of Christmas that a little Aruban goat guided Santa's sleigh. And so Meki made sure all the children got their gifts for Christmas.

But one thing will always remain a secret. No one never knew what Santa told the Governor to whisper in Meki's ear at exactly "Three minutes before Xmas." Forever and ever that will be a secret between the Governor and Santa.



## The Missing Stocking



*"A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie."*

-- Tenneva Jordan

Suddenly I felt my cheeks turn red with embarrassment. How could I have never noticed? Every Christmas my mother enjoyed creating special memories and traditions for her family. Mom loved Christmas -- the shopping, baking, decorating, music, gifts... even the hustle and bustle the season brings. Her enthusiasm was contagious and that encouraged my brother, sister, and me to experience the joy and wonder of Christmas. Although Santa came to our home, we were taught that the real reason for the season was to celebrate the birth of our Messiah -- Jesus Christ.

Many years have passed since I was a child. Yet I can still smell the aroma of Mom's sugar cookies baking, as she prepared a special treat for her family and for Santa. These delicacies were a sure sign that Christmas Day was near.

On Christmas Eve my mother laid all our stockings under the beautifully decorated pine tree my father had picked out and cut down in the forest. Later, in the middle of the night, Santa filled the stockings.

The next morning we excitedly opened our gifts, leaving our Christmas stockings for last. Santa always stuffed our stockings full of tiny toys, trinkets, nuts, oranges, apples, and colorful hard candies in various shapes, sizes, and flavors.

In my twenties, I went Christmas shopping with a friend. She began looking for a small gift to place in her mother's stocking.

"You fix a Christmas stocking for your mother?" I asked.

"Yes," she replied. "Every year I fill a stocking with lit-

tle goodies and have it waiting for her on Christmas morning. I couldn't bear for my mother to not have a Christmas stocking, especially since she prepares one for everyone else."

That's when I felt my cheeks flush with embarrassment. I realized my mother had not had a Christmas stocking for as long as I remembered. And, even worse, no one had noticed her stocking was missing.

My sister and I determined to start a tradition of our own that year. Excited, we bought jewelry, candy, socks, and an orange. We placed them in a small, red stocking. Christmas morning we snuck it under the tree while Mom was busy preparing breakfast.

Eagerly we waited to see Mom's reaction. She passed out everyone's stockings; then noticed an extra one. She picked up the stocking and read the tag: "To Betty Ann -- Love, Santa."

Amazement crossed her face. "Is this stocking really for me?"

We smiled and nodded.

Tears glistened in Mom's eyes. "It's been so long... since I've had a Christmas stocking," she said. "Thank you."

Though I don't remember the gifts I received that year, I have never forgotten how thrilled my mother was to receive a simple, red stocking. Seeing her reaction was the most precious gift of all. And once again, she taught me about the joy and wonder of Christmas... that it is indeed more blessed to give than to receive.

### "What is Christmas?"

*It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future.*

*It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace."*

-- Agnes M. Puhro

*Warmest Wishes...*



*Wishing you Happy Holidays and a New Year  
filled with prosperity and success.*



## Strange Christmas traditions from around the world

### JAPAN

There's nothing like settling down to a turkey with all the trimmings, is there? But in Japan, they have their own take on how to polish off poultry. Instead of a home-cooked feast, families like to head out to their local KFC. It's such a popular custom that reservations for the fast food joint usually have to be made way in advance. Barbecue sauce, anyone?

### PORTUGAL

Christmas is always a time to remember loved ones, but on Christmas morning the Portuguese go a step further and actually set a place for relatives who have recently died. They even leave a small portion of food for visiting souls, as it's believed the kind gesture will bring luck in the New Year.

### CZECH REPUBLIC

If you find yourself lurking alone under the mistletoe, it might be worth following a certain Czech tradition to see if things will pick up in the New Year. On Christmas Eve, single women stand opposite a door with their back to it, then hurl their footwear over their shoulder. If it lands facing the door, wedding bells can be expected within the year. If it lands facing away, the single status looks set to continue. Shoe-d be fun!

### RUSSIA

Sviata Vecheria or "Holy Supper" is the central tradi-

tion of the Christmas Eve celebrations in Ukrainian homes and takes place in most parts of the country on 6 January. In Western Ukraine, Christmas can be observed twice—on 25 December and 7 January, often irrespective of

whether the family belongs to Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, the (Roman) Catholic Church, one of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches, or one of the Protestant denominations.

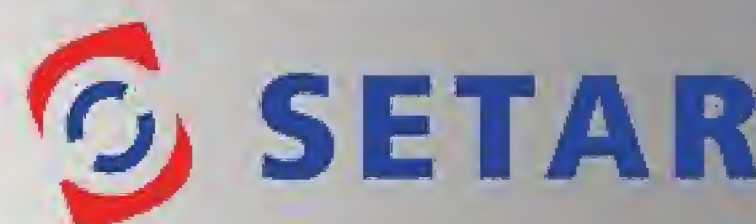
*Christmas is the season  
for kindling  
the fire of  
hospitality in the hall,  
the genial flame  
of charity in the heart.*

*Merry Christmas  
and all the best  
in the  
New Year*





*Nos ta desea henter e pueblo di Aruba un  
Bon Pasco y un Prospero Aña Nobo*



## SPINACH GRATIN

Popeye would approve of Chuck's leafy green gratin. It pairs two pounds of spinach with buttery Emmental, a type of Swiss cheese that melts especially well in this browned and bubbly dish.

### INGREDIENTS

- 3 tablespoons/45 ml butter, plus more for greasing
- 2 pounds/1 kg baby spinach
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons/30 ml all-purpose flour
- 1 cup/250 ml 35-percent cream
- 1 cup/250 ml milk
- 2 cups/500 ml grated Emmentalcheese
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

### DIRECTIONS

-Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Butter an 8 cup (2 l) gratin dish.  
-In a skillet over medium-high heat, warm 1 tablespoon butter. Add the spinach and cook, stirring occasionally, until just wilted, 3 to 4 minutes. Press out any excess water.  
-Transfer to a large bowl.  
In a large saucepan over medium heat, melt the remaining 2 tablespoons butter. Add the onions and cook, stirring, until translucent but not brown, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and then the flour and cook, stirring constantly, until nutty and just golden, about 1 minute. Slowly whisk in the cream and milk and continue cooking until thickened, about 3 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in half of the cheese until melted. Fold the sauce into the spinach and season with salt and pepper. Transfer to the prepared gratin dish and top with the remaining cheese. Bake until the gratin is golden brown on top, about 10 minutes.




## Baked Ham



### Directions

-Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Place ham on a rack set in a roasting pan, and carefully pour about 1/2 inch of boiling water into the pan beneath the ham. Put some cloves in the water.  
-Bake the ham in the preheated oven for 2 hours.  
-Reduce oven heat to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C.) In a bowl, mix together the brown sugar, flour, dry mustard, honey, and lemon juice as needed to make a thick, smooth paste. Brush the ham generously with glaze. Skewer 1 pineapple chunk and 1 maraschino cherry per toothpick, and insert the decorated picks all over the ham.  
-Return the ham to the oven, and roast for 15 minutes. Baste the ham, fruit and all, with glaze and juices that have collected in the bottom of the pan, return to the oven, and roast for an additional 15 minutes. Let the ham rest for at least 10 minutes before slicing.





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2014**

## Especially for you

*For a very special friend...*

*Christmas is all about,  
counting your blessings  
and being thankful*

*for the things dear to you!*

*I looked into my heart  
and found what it holds dearest...*

*It is the gift of your friendship!*

**Best wishes for a memorable  
Holiday Season and may you and  
your loved ones be blessed  
with Health, Prosperity and  
Good Fortune in the New Year**



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**Best wishes  
for a  
Joyous Holiday  
Season and  
a New Year  
of Peace  
and  
Happiness**






*"May your home  
be filled with  
peace and joy  
this holiday season."*



**THE MORNING NEWS**  
Your source for local news in English






**Happy Holidays!**

AIG Aruba Wishes all our insurance brokers,  
customers and business contacts a Merry Christmas  
and a Prosperous 2014

Please be advised that for the holidays our  
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*There is no time more fitting to say  
"Thank You" and to wish you a  
Happy Holiday Season and a  
New Year of health, happiness  
and prosperity.*

*Merry Christmas!*

## Francis meets Benedict XVI on first Christmas as pope



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Francis visited his predecessor Benedict XVI on Monday for an informal Christmas greeting, as the Argentine pontiff prepares to celebrate his first Christmas as leader of the world's Roman Catholics. Francis met with the 86-year-old Benedict in a former monastery building on a hill inside the Vatican City walls where the pope emeritus has taken up residence following his historic resignation earlier this year. The two men could be seen praying side by side in a chapel inside the residence and chatting amiably on white sofas with a Christmas garland in front of them in photographs released by the Vatican press service. Both were dressed in the white cassocks used by popes. Francis came to "give his best wishes for the Christmas celebrations", the Vatican said in a statement. The 77-year-old pope earlier on Monday compared the Catholic Church to an expectant mother during a homily at one of his daily masses in the residence where he has been staying since his election by fellow cardinals in March.

## Card payment system crash causes pre-holiday havoc in Belgium

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Pre-holiday shopping and travel was thrown into chaos in Belgium on Monday when a bank card payment system broke down.

Across the country, card payment terminals worked very slowly if at all from mid-afternoon, according to Belgian newspaper websites and social media.

Customers at many shops were forced to leave to find a bank cash machine, which were mostly still functioning.

Atos Worldline, which manages the bank card payment system in Belgium, told the Belga news agency it was still trying to determine the cause of the crash and did not forecast when it would have the problem fixed.

Its Belgium network on Saturday set a new record of 5.5 million transactions in the country of roughly 11 million people.

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## Santa cleared for entry to US: official

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Santa Claus was officially cleared for entry into the United States on Monday as federal agriculture officials waived stringent livestock checks on his nine reindeer.

The US Department of Agriculture announced in a light-hearted statement that a "Mr. S. Claus" of the North Pole was free to enter the United States with his reindeer from December 24 to December 25.

"During this season of giving, USDA wants to do everything in its power to help Santa," said John R. Clifford, USDA's Chief Veterinary Officer.

"We agreed to waive the normal application fees and entry inspection/overtime costs, provided he winks his eye and wishes port personnel a Merry Christmas at the time of crossing."

Authorities also waived the normal health checks for Santa's reindeer -- provided they met certain alternative conditions.

"As a condition of entry, the reindeer must be certified by Santa Claus as never having been fed anything other than hay, sugar plums and gingerbread," the statement said.

"The reindeer must also be

individually identified with microchips or official ear tag identification, and must respond to the names 'Dasher', 'Dancer', 'Prancer', 'Vixen', 'Comet', 'Cupid', 'Donner', 'Blitzen' and 'Rudolph' when interacting with port personnel.

"No more than one reindeer in the group may be visibly affected by 'Rednose Syndrome', and upon entry, port personnel will visually inspect the reindeer to ensure they are healthy and fit for continued travel."

The reindeer would also be required to be "pulling a wooden sleigh that has jingling bells attached and is filled with brightly-wrapped gifts."

"Port personnel will clean and disinfect the runners and underside of the sleigh at the time of entry," the statement said.

The USDA's festive statement was in keeping with agencies who acknowledge the existence of Santa Claus, albeit with tongue firmly in cheek.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), which polices the skies above Canada and the United States, regularly tracks the progress of Santa Claus and his reindeer in realtime on its NORAD Santa Tracker ([www.noradsanta.org](http://www.noradsanta.org)).



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## Japan robot astronaut talks Santa in first chat with spaceman

TOKYO (AFP) - The world's first robot astronaut has begun chatting to the Japanese commander of the International Space Station, in what was being billed as the first conversation of its kind.

"Santa Claus will come to space," Kirobo, wearing a Santa hat, told Wakata as they drifted in zero gravity hundreds of miles (kilometres) above the Earth.

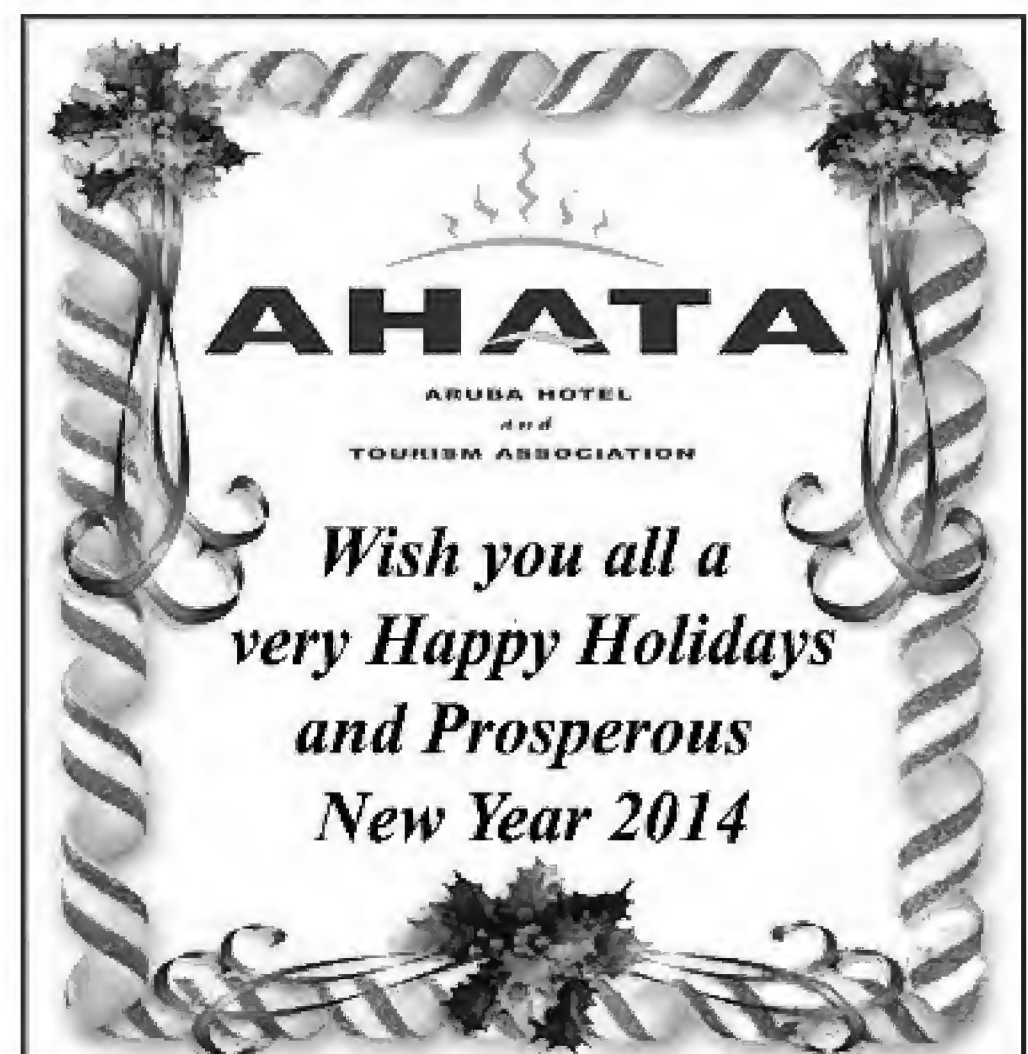
"What will you ask for from Santa Claus, Kirobo?" asked the Japanese astronaut.

"I want a toy rocket... let's ask Santa Claus."

The wide-eyed and bootie-wearing Kirobo -- roughly the size of a chihuahua -- left Earth on a cargo-carrying rocket and reached the space station on August 10.

Wakata along with Mikhail

Tyurin of Russia and NASA joined him at the ISS in November.



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TOURISM ASSOCIATION

*Wish you all a  
very Happy Holidays  
and Prosperous  
New Year 2014*



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wonderful holiday  
and a  
Happy New Year**

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## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



**Delicious Breakfast**

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on para-

dise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8am, patrons can now order 2

eggs any style (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) and toast for a price of only \$4.99 or All You Can Eat Pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie, so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice

beef), and a Western Burger with Aaron's secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.



5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to

make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

**5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish Sunday-Thursday; and until 3am on Friday & Saturdays.**

**Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches!** Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic,

heartfelt hospitality, it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.





**Caya G.F. Betico Croes 3**  
(At the beginning of the Mainstreet)  
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## Museum wants UNESCO listing for German Father Christmas

BERLIN (AFP) - A German museum has applied for UNESCO heritage status for the country's traditional Father Christmas, saying he is under threat from the cheery version of Santa Claus popularised globally by Coca-Cola.

The German Christmas Museum's director Felicitas Hoeptner argues today's Santa Claus is based on a German gift-giver who meted out both treats and punishment, but that knowledge of the figure's origins is fading away.

"Children only know about Santa Claus, because he's smiling, he brings gifts, he's a nice man, and with different marketing campaigns, he's popular all around the world," Hoeptner told AFP by phone from Rothenburg, Bavaria, where her museum is located.

"People forget about those old German traditions."

Hoeptner has applied for UNESCO "intangible cultural heritage" status for the German Father Christmas, or "Weihnachtsmann," as well as his symbolic predecessor St. Nicholas, based on a 4th-century Greek bishop, and the gift-bearing Christ Child.

Father Christmas was developed in Germany during the Protestant Reformation, as a secular replacement for the Catholic St. Nicholas, Hoeptner said.

As the church did away with saints, "there was a need for a new gift-bringer, a new symbol," Hoeptner said.

According to Hoeptner, Father Christmas took his popular physical form from a 19th century Munich magazine illustration featuring a stern-looking man with a full beard, long coat and hood, who walked through the city streets with a Christmas tree and punished naughty children with a stick.

The character was brought into the popular American

imagination by the German immigrant illustrator Thomas Nast in the late 1800s, Hoeptner said.

The origins of Santa Claus'

red coat and hat are debated, but Hoeptner ascribes his modern look, and perpetually jolly nature, as an invention of Coca-Cola marketing cam-

paigns.

"You never find Santa Claus looking serious, or being grim. He will never ask the children, 'Have you really been good in

the past year?'" Hoeptner said, or require children to recite a poem before receiving presents, as in the German tradition.



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Aña Nobo!**

### Participacion

**Relaciona cu Pasco y Aña Nobo lo bay tin adaptacion  
den e schedule recidencial. Serlimar ta gradici pa e comprension  
y cooperacion.**

#### Ruta Normal:

Ruta di **dialuna 23 di December**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diamars 22 december**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diananson 25 december**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diahuebs 24 december**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diabierna 27 di December**,

#### Adaptacion:

**diasabra 21 december** orario normal,  
**diadomingo 22 december** orario normal,  
**dialuna 30 december** orario normal,  
**diahuebs 24 december** primer shift 12:00 am  
**diabierna 27 december** orario normal.

Ruta di **dialuna 30 december**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diamars 31 december**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diananson 1 di Januari**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diahuebs 2 di Januari**, ta wordo colecta  
Ruta di **diabierna 3 di Januari** ta wordo colecta

**diasabra 28 december** orario normal,  
**diadomingo 29 december** orario normal,  
**dialuna 30 december** orario normal,  
**diamars 31 december** primer shift 12:00 am,  
**diabierna 3 di Januari** orario normal.

	Landfill Parkietenbos	Landfill Gavilan
<b>24 december</b>	6.00 am – 12.00 pm	7.00 am – 12.00 pm
<b>25 december</b>	cera	cera
<b>26 december</b>	cera	cera
<b>31 december</b>	6.00 am – 12.00 pm	7.00 am – 12.00 pm
<b>1 januari</b>	cera	cera
<b>2 januari</b>	7.00 am – 6.00 pm	8.00 am – 6.00 pm



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With a click and a clack  
 And a great big pack,  
 Down through the chimney,  
 Pretty nimbly  
 Somebody comes on Christmas eve!

If we are real nice  
 And as still as mice,  
 If we never peep,  
 And are sound asleep,  
 He'll fill our stockings, I do believe!

And when we arise  
 Next day our eyes  
 Will grow big to see  
 How perfectly  
 He knew what we all  
 wished to receive!

- Susie M. Bort

## Santa being tracked by Microsoft and Google

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - The competition between Microsoft and Google is stretching to the North Pole as the Internet search rivals vie to be top Santa tracker this Christmas.

Google on Wednesday launched a google.com/santa-tracker website offering reindeer games, elf antics and updates on beloved gift-giver Kris Kringle as children worldwide count down to Christmas eve.

"A team of Google engineers are working hard to track Santa's sleigh with the most advanced maps and holiday technology available," self-titled Elf Creative Director Sandy Russell said in a blog post.

Google has crafted software to involve Android-powered devices and its Chrome web browsers in on the Claus tracking action.

"Use your phone for on-the-go flight practice with the elves or cozy up near the fireplace with your tablet to follow Santa around the world as he delivers presents Christmas Eve," Russell said.

"If you have Chromecast, cast from the Santa Tracker Android app to explore the Village or track his route right from your TV."

Meanwhile, Microsoft teamed with North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) to create a Santa Tracker powered by the organization's global radar system and technology such as Bing Maps and Windows software.

Colorado-based NORAD is a combined US and Canadian command center that works to "defend North America" by watching the skies and seas for threats.

"Since we're watching the skies anyway, it only makes sense to watch for Rudolph as well," said NORAD Tracks Santa project manager Marisa



Novobilski.

NORAD's tradition of Santa tracking began in 1955, after a US retail chain's newspaper ad inviting children to telephone Mr. Claus mistakenly listed a phone number reserved for emergency US air defense situations.

A colonel on duty played along for the sake of children callers, and "it became the goodwill military outreach program it is today," Novobilski said.

This is the first time NORAD has teamed with Mi-

crosoft, which is helping power a noradsanta.org website featuring games, video and more.

"Once upon a time, children would have to take their parents' word that Santa Claus was on his way (but will only stop at their house if they go to sleep already)," US-based Microsoft said.

"Now, using a website, a mobile app, or by placing a phone call to NORAD, children can determine Santa Claus's approximate global position."

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(Includes: 2-pc funchi, fried plantains french fries, tartar sauce & pickled onions)	
Calco "Conch" in Creole or garlic sauce	US\$ 21.70 AFIs. 38.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw, french fries & fried plantain)	
Panfried Lobster 6 oz.	US\$ 20.00 AFIs. 35.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw, french fries & fried plantain)	

**Special Plates**

Chicken Sate	US\$ 10.85 AFIs. 19.00
(Includes: french fries & peanut sauce)	
Filet Mignon 6 oz (Angus)	US\$ 18.30 AFIs. 32.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw french fries & fried plantain)	
Extra side orders US\$ 3.00 AFIs. 5.00	
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## Paseo Herencia executive team get together for a tremendous celebration at O Restaurant

**PALM BEACH** – Recently Paseo Herencia's executive team joined different companies on Aruba for a tremendous celebration at O Restaurant.

A special menu with different traditional holiday dishes was prepared for the occasion. Paseo and their executive group had a very successful business year 2013.

Paseo Herencia joined by their executive team enjoyed the beautiful Christmas songs sung by local artist Edjean Semeleer himself. This way they said goodbye to a successful year and toasted for a prosperous new year.

perous new year.

Paseo Herencia wishes the entire community of Aruba a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May the good Lord bless the entire Aruban Community are the wishes of Staff and Personnel of Paseo Herencia Mall.



**THE MORNING NEWS**

Your source for local news in English

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*What I Should  
Like*

*On Christmas eve  
I'd like to lie  
Awake, when stars  
are in the sky,  
And listen to the  
sound that swells  
From Santa  
Claus's jingling  
bells.*

*I'd like to hear  
upon the roof  
The patter of each  
tiny hoof  
Of Santa's  
reindeer  
overhead,  
When I am snug  
and warm in bed.*

*But mamma says I  
must not lie  
Awake, or he will  
pass me by;  
He does not like  
the girls or boys  
To watch him  
when he brings  
the toys.*

*I think I'd better  
go to sleep.  
I guess the  
presents all will  
keep,  
Then in the  
morning I shall be  
Glad to think I did  
not see.*

*Jennie D. Moore*



*y Feliz Año 2014*

Mi ta desea cu e nacemento di Niño Hesus trece hopi alegría,  
felicidad y amor den tur famia y den tur hogar e Pasco aki.

*Bon Pasco!*

Otmar E. Oduber

Minister di Turismo, Transporte, Sector Primario y Cultura

*We hope this Cristmas enriches your life;  
May each day be happy and bright.  
Overflowing with pleasure and love;  
May your Cristmas be filled with delight.*